

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE RALEIGH NC
800 AM EDT SAT MAY 31 2014

...THIS WEEK IS HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK FOR 2014...

All week long the National Weather Service has issued informative messages to help you prepare for the hurricane season. Each day has covered a different topic. Today's topic...the final in the series for this year's hurricane preparedness week...is about **taking action!**

FEMA and NOAA are just one part of the emergency management team that works to prepare and respond to disaster. A key member of the team is the public. That is why we are encouraging everyone to do their part – pledge to prepare...and prepare now...so that you know what to do when hurricanes strike. During this preparedness week we ask you to pledge to prepare...complete your emergency preparedness plan...create or update your emergency kit...and finally share your story.

Pledge to prepare by visiting <http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>. Then after you've made your preparedness plan and created or updated your emergency kit...be an example by sharing what you have done...with your friends...family...and coworkers. Share your story with your family and friends through your social network - create a YouTube video...post your story on Facebook...or send a tweet.

Finally...remember that when a Hurricane Watch is issued for your area you should check your disaster supply kit. Make sure nothing is missing. Determine if there is anything you need to supplement your kit and replenish your water. Then activate your family disaster plan. Protective measures should be initiated...especially those with coastal property including houses and boats.

When a Hurricane Warning is issued you should ready your disaster supply kit for use. If you need to evacuate...you should bring your supply kit with you. Use your family disaster plan. Your family should be in the process of completing protective actions and deciding the safest location to be during the storm.

History teaches that a lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are common threads among all major hurricane disasters. By knowing your vulnerability and what actions you should take...you can reduce the effects of a hurricane disaster.

For more information about hurricane preparedness...please visit the following web sites:

- <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare>
- <http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>